

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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DRAFTED BY IO/TRC: C HARTLEY:SJR
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NEA/RA: SPERRY
ARA/RPP: CEFINAN
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COMMERCE/USTS: JO'BRIEN
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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EMBASSY MEXICO PASS TO USTS/MEXICO CITY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, WTO

SUBJECT: FRENCH REQUEST FOR US SUPPORT FOR RE-ELECTION OF
WTO SYG LONATI

BEGIN SUMMARY. US HAS INDICATED, IN RESPONSE TO FRENCH
REQUEST, THAT US COULD NOT RPT NOT SUPPORT RE-ELECTION OF
WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO) SECRETARY GENERAL LONATI.
ADDRESSEE POSTS, AT THEIR DISCRETION, SHOULD APPROACH HOST
GOVERNMENTS, WHICH ARE MEMBERS OF WTO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, TO
CONVEY US VIEWS. END SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH EMBASSY ECONOMIC COUNSELOR CALLED AT DEPARTMENT
(IO/TRC) JULY 10 TO SEEK US SUPPORT FOR RE-ELECTION OF
ROBERT C. LONATI OF FRANCE AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF WORLD
TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO IS AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZA-
TION HEADQUARTERED IN MADRID; LONATI'S FIRST FOUR-YEAR TERM
OF OFFICE WILL EXPIRE AT END OF 1979). FRENCH EMBASSY
OFFICIAL IN SEEKING THIS SUPPORT NOTED THAT GOF COULD BACK
FORMER WTO COUNCIL DELEGATE ROEDAD KHAN OF PAKISTAN FOR
ELECTION IN 1983 (PAKISTANI GOVT. HAS INFORMED US, AND MOST
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LIKELY OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS, OF KHAN'S CANDIDACY IN 1979).

2. DEPT. OFFICER REPLIED AS FOLLOWS:

A) UNFORTUNATELY, US COULD NOT RPT. NOT GIVE ITS SUPPORT
FOR LONATI'S RE-ELECTION AS SECRETARY GENERAL. PRINCIPAL
REASON WAS THAT LONATI HAS NOT RPT NOT SUCCEEDED, IN US
OPINION, IN MOLDING WTO INTO AN EFFECTIVE ORGANIZATION
DURING HIS FIRST THREE YEARS AS SECRETARY GENERAL AND DUR-
ING THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF WTO'S EXISTENCE. WE HAVE
ALREADY CONVEYED OUR VIEWS IN THIS REGARD TO FRENCH
DELEGATION TO PREVIOUS WTO COUNCIL MEETINGS (FRANCE WAS
MEMBER OF COUNCIL THROUGH 1977), AND THEREFORE US POSITION
SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE. US FELT STRONGLY THAT ANOTHER,
STRONGER SECRETARY GENERAL SHOULD BE SELECTED WHEN TENTH
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS IN SPRING OF 1979 TO MAKE ITS
NOMINATION AND THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES IN FALL OF
SAME YEAR TO APPOINT COUNCIL'S CANDIDATE. US HAS NO FIRM
CANDIDATE IN MIND AT THIS TIME NOR ANY PRECONCEPTION AS TO
WHICH COUNTRY OR REGIONAL AREA HE SHOULD COME FROM; WE ONLY
STRESS THAT HE SHOULD HAVE APPROPRIATE EXECUTIVE QUALIFICA-
TIONS.

B) WE NOTE FURTHER THAT LONATI HAS BEEN SELECTED TO BE PRESIDENT OF WORLD TOURISM CONFERENCE WHICH WILL MEET IN MANILA IN 1980. WE QUESTION WHETHER HE OR ANYONE ELSE COULD EFFECTIVELY BOTH PREPARE FOR AND RUN WORLD TOURISM CONFERENCE AND AT SAME TIME MANAGE ONGOING WORK OF WTO.

C) US IN ANY CASE BELIEVES THAT IT IS PREMATURE TO DISCUSS CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY GENERAL. IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR NOVEMBER 1978 NINTH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO DISCUSS PROCEDURES FOR NOMINATING AND APPOINTING A SECRETARY GENERAL AND THEN--AS INDICATED ABOVE--FOR TENTH COUNCIL AND THIRD ASSEMBLY TO NOMINATE AND APPOINT A CANDIDATE. (DEPT OFFICER AT THIS POINT HANDED FRENCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMBASSY OFFICIAL COPY OF PAPER ON THIS SUBJECT SUBMITTED TO WTO FOR CIRCULATION AS A SUPPORTING DOCUMENT FOR NINTH COUNCIL SESSION).

3. ADDRESSEE POSTS, AT THEIR DISCRETION, SHOULD APPROACH TOURISM OFFICIALS (OR FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS IF MORE APPROPRIATE) AND MAKE POINTS A THROUGH C ABOVE (HOST GOVERNMENTS ARE MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL). IF EMBASSIES DECIDE TO MAKE APPROACH, IT SHOULD BE DONE ASAP, SINCE FRENCH EVIDENTLY ARE SEEKING QUICK ENDORSEMENT OF LONATI AS CONSENSUS CANDIDATE BEFORE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN TO OTHER CONTENDERS. TO FACILITATE EMBASSIES' EFFORTS, NAMES, AND TITLES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DELEGATION HEADS, OR ASSEMBLY DELEGATION MEMBERS AS APPROPRIATE, ARE GIVEN IN PARA 4. IN MAKING APPROACH, ADDRESSEE POSTS SHOULD PREFACE REMARKS WITH OBSERVATION THAT FRANCE HAS

SOUGHT US SUPPORT FOR LONATI'S RE-ELECTION AND WE ASSUME FRENCH HAVE MADE, OR WILL SHORTLY MAKE, SIMILAR DEMARCHES TO OTHER EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS. POINT SHOULD BE MADE THAT WE ARE NOT RPT NOT WORKING AGAINST FRENCH CANDIDATE AS SUCH, BUT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT MANAGEMENT OF WTO BY INCUMBENT SECRETARY GENERAL WHO HAPPENS TO BE OF FRENCH NATIONALITY. IN CONCLUDING PRESENTATION, EMBASSIES SHOULD EXPRESS HOPE THAT HOST GOVERNMENTS WILL TAKE US VIEWS INTO ACCOUNT WHEN PREPARING THEIR RESPONSES TO ANTICIPATED FRENCH REQUEST. ALSO, COPIES OF US PAPER CAN BE POUCHED TO EMBASSIES FOR HOST GOVERNMENTS IF REQUESTED.

4. NAMES AND TITLES OF WTO DELEGATION REPRESENTATIVES ARE AS FOLLOWS: THAILAND--COL. SOMCHAI HIRANYAKIT, DIRECTOR GENERAL, TOURIST ORGANIZATION; MALI--M. SAKO, TOURISM COMMISSIONER (ASSEMBLY DELEGATE); EGYPT--HAMED ABDEL MEGUID, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TOURISM MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY; VENEZUELA--NELSON DOUAIHI,
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TOURISM; BANGLADESH--AHMED HEMAYETUDDIN,
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL TOURIST ORGANIZATION; NETHERLANDS--
DR. W.A. VAN DE GARDE, MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS;
INDONESIA--MARCELLINUS PRAJOGO, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TOURISM
(ASSEMBLY DELEGATE); NIGERIA--A. O. OJEHOMON, DIRECTOR
GENERAL, TOURIST BOARD; PERU--SAMANEZ DE ARMAS, ASSISTANT,
OFFICE OF TOURISM (ASSEMBLY DELEGATE); ZAMBIA--JOHN KABEMBA,
NATIONAL TOURIST BUREAU; SPAIN--FRANCISCO MONFORTE LOPEZ,
FOREIGN MINISTRY; MEXICO--JULIO ANTONIO GALLARDO ORTIZ,
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TOURISM; USSR--IOURI STOULOV, STATE
FOREIGN TOURISM ADMINISTRATION; KENYA--G. N. MACHARIA,
MINISTRY OF TOURISM; PANAMA--JOSE ROGELIO ARIAS, DIRECTOR,
PANAMANIAN INSTITUTE OF TOURISM; ECUADOR--JUAN SEVILLA
SALGADO, DIRECTOR OF TOURISM (ASSEMBLY DELEGATE); MOROCCO--
MOHAMED DRIOUCHE, DIRECTOR, MINISTRY OF TOURISM; POLAND--
JAN PAWLAK, GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR SPORT AND TOURISM (PRESI-
DENT OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL); CAMEROON--CLAUDE JOSEPH
M'BAFOU, GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PORG, TH, WTO
To: BANGKOK BAMAKO MULTIPLE
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
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